

March 5, 1974

a motion? It has been moved and seconded I presume that a...a...Senator Luedtke. We had a roll call and we had a quorum awhile back. Senator Luedtke.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Mr. President, members of the legislature this LB1028, the reason that there is such an urgency in getting this out on General File and across the board with the Emergency Clause attached it deals with the establishing for Nebraska an anti-trust division in full operation in the Attorney General's office. Right now the Attorney General does not have full staff or full time staff member for this purpose and he needs one to be designated as an anti-trust and the assistant attorney general of anti-trust activities in the state of Nebraska. Secondly we need to beef up our anti-trust laws in the state of Nebraska to deal with such problems as relates to current corporate activities in the field of gas, oil, petroleum and meat processing and the entire range and area of shortages and energy in Nebraska. There are many other areas in which the Attorney General has attempted in the past to join with Attorney General's of other states through the federal anti-trust acts and this is the only way in which our attorney general has been able to get any recovery consumer wise for the citizens of the state of Nebraska. The Attorney General advised our committee during a hearing on this bill, and I think shocked most of the members of our committee that we had no adequate legislation on the books of Nebraska to deal then with anti-trust. With any anti-trust activity. So the Attorney General came in and requested this, this particular bill and we have an amendment to tighten up the laws anti-trust which we can put on when it gets on General File and we are urging that the legislature gives its immediate attention to the problem so that the Attorney General can get to work.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Mr. President, I would like to get the attention of all of you people who are all interested from the standpoint of agriculture. The Attorney General came into the Judiciary Committee some time ago, and he indicated to us something that we have never thought about before. He told us that the Attorney General of the state of Nebraska didn't even have the power of subpoena. He couldn't subpoena anybody. It has been that way since 1905. Now, I think that anyone who is a layman like I am without too much knowledge of livestock understands what is going on in the livestock industry. There is one thing that is facing this state it is livestock. That is the basic industry of this state and that is livestock. Now it is a generally accepted version that the people who make the prices on livestock which reflects what the farmer gets and who? It is the retailer. The chain stores, they dictate what they are going to pay. Now Senator Schmit has held a number of hearings. Senator Schmit, I presume he can speak for himself is completely frustrated. He is a good deal like a wind-mill and he is doing everything but bringing about results. Now the only way you are going to get results is to pass this bill which is not the end of the bill because I have an amendment to the bill. Which will really put teeth in the area of the area in which we are talking about. This state has to the Attorney General's office to stop this thing and to go into debt to see what is going on. We don't know. We people in the cities as an illustration have no